

# Senate Study Bill 3079 - Introduced

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON FEENSTRA)

## A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the practice of optometry.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 154.1, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code  
2 2018, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. An optometrist licensed under this chapter may employ  
4 all diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents for the  
5 purpose of diagnosis and treatment of conditions of the human  
6 eye and adnexa pursuant to this subsection, excluding the use  
7 of sub-Tenon, botulinum toxin, and retrobulbar injections or  
8 injections other than to counteract an anaphylactic reaction  
9 which penetrate the globe, and notwithstanding section 147.107,  
10 may without charge supply any of the above pharmaceuticals  
11 to commence a course of therapy. A licensed optometrist may  
12 perform minor surgical procedures and use medications for the  
13 diagnosis and treatment of diseases, disorders, and conditions  
14 of the eye and adnexa. A license to practice optometry under  
15 this chapter does not authorize the performance of surgical  
16 procedures which require ~~the use of injectable or~~ general  
17 anesthesia, moderate sedation, penetration of the globe, or  
18 the use of ophthalmic lasers for the purpose of ophthalmic  
19 surgery within or upon the globe. The removal of pterygia and  
20 Salzmann's nodules, incisional corneal refractive surgery, and  
21 strabismus surgery are prohibited.

22 ob. A licensed optometrist shall only use injectable  
23 anesthesia for eyelid procedures used to treat eyelid cysts,  
24 chalazia, and papillomas; however, an optometrist shall not  
25 use injectable anesthesia or any injectable pharmaceutical  
26 agents, except to counteract anaphylaxis, prior to receiving  
27 approval from the board. The board shall not approve the  
28 use of injections unless the optometrist demonstrates to  
29 the board's satisfaction sufficient educational or clinical  
30 training from or equivalent to a college or university  
31 accredited by a regional or professional accreditation  
32 organization which is recognized or approved by the council  
33 for higher education accreditation or by the United States  
34 department of education. A license granted to an applicant who  
35 graduated from an accredited school of optometry and who passed

1 the injections skills examination of the national board of  
2 examiners in optometry examination on or after January 1, 2011,  
3 shall constitute proof of sufficient educational or clinical  
4 training.

5 EXPLANATION

6 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
7 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

8 This bill makes changes to certain types of diagnosis and  
9 treatment procedures which may be performed by an optometrist.  
10 Previously, an optometrist could not use injections other  
11 than to counteract an anaphylactic reaction. Under the bill,  
12 an optometrist cannot use sub-Tenon, botulinum toxin, or  
13 retrobulbar injections or injections which penetrate the globe.  
14 The bill removes a prohibition on the performance of surgical  
15 procedures which require the use of injectable anesthesia by  
16 licensed optometrists. The bill also provides that injectable  
17 anesthesia may only be used for eyelid procedures used to  
18 treat eyelid cysts, chalazia, and papillomas; however, the  
19 bill requires an optometrist to receive board approval before  
20 using any injectable pharmaceuticals, except to counteract  
21 anaphylaxis. The board shall not approve the use of injections  
22 by an optometrist unless the optometrist demonstrates  
23 sufficient educational or clinical training from or equivalent  
24 to an accredited college or university. The bill directs the  
25 board to accept a license to practice optometry issued to an  
26 applicant who graduated from an accredited school of optometry  
27 and who passed the injections skills portion of the national  
28 board of examiners in optometry examination on or after  
29 January 1, 2011, as proof of sufficient educational or clinical  
30 training.